

*Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks*  
1420 E 6th Ave, PO Box 200701 Helena, MT 59620-0701  
(406) 444-2452

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SUMMARY**

**PART I. Proposed Actions**

**1. Project Title:** Rudyard Gun Club

**2. Type of Proposed Action:** Replace older manual trap machine with automatic Pat-trap machine and replace deteriorating concrete sidewalks on shooting ranges 2 & 3.

**3. Location Affected by Proposed Action:** Range is located on the NW ½ Section 10, Township 31N, Range 9E, 6 miles south of Rudyard in Hill County Montana.

**4. Agency Authority for the Proposed Action:** MCA87-1-276 through 87-1-279 (Legislative established policies and procedures for the establishment and improvement of shooting ranges) MCA87-2-105 (Departmental authority to expend funds to provide training in the safe handling and use of firearms and safe hunting practices)

**5. Need for the Action(s):** Replace deteriorating and older existing equipment to improve safety and operational efficiency.

**6. Objectives for the Action(s):** General maintenance and installation of automatic trap machine to replace older manual trap machine. Additionally, minor repairs of deteriorating concrete sidewalks or shooting lanes.

**7. Project Size: Estimate the number of acres that would be directly affected:** NA - Minor improvements and replacements are limited to existing equipment and facilities within a smaller portion of the overall range acreage.

**8. Affected Environment (A brief description of the affected area of the proposed project):** NA – replacement and minor maintenance of existing range and installed equipment are exempted from Environmental Assessment under the MEPA Model, Title 75, chapter 1, MCA, the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) para. III (5) (c).  
(5) The agency is not required to prepare an EA or an EIS for the following categories of action:...  
(c) minor repairs, operations, or maintenance of existing equipment or facilities;

**9. Name, Address and Phone Number of Project Sponsor:**  
Darwin Anderson

7983 Rudyard Rd. N.  
Box 31  
Rudyard, MT 59540

**10. Other Pertinent Information:** Shooting range applications require the participant's governing body to approve by resolution its submission of applications for shooting range funding assistance. Resolution Date: Feb. 24, 2007.

**11. List any Other Local, State, or Federal Agency that has Overlapping or Additional Jurisdiction:**

**(a) Permits, Licenses and/or Authorizations:**

<u>Agency Name</u>	<u>Permit</u>
N/A	

**Funding:**

<u>Agency Name</u>	<u>Funding Amount</u>
Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks	\$14,000

**12. Affiliations, Cooperating Agencies, User Groups and/or Supporting Groups:** The following groups use the club facilities: 4-H Club, Boy Scouts and Hunter Education.

**13. History of the Planning and Scoping Process, and Any Public Involvement:** The current proposed range improvements and safety enhancements had been discussed within the membership of the club and with the associated project vendors and contractors.

**14. List of Agencies Consulted/Contacted During Preparation of the EA:**

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

**15. Name, Address and Phone Number of Project Sponsor:**

Darwin Anderson, Box 31, Rudyard, MT 59540 (406) 355-4163

**16. Other Pertinent Information:** Shooting range applications require the participant's governing body to approve by resolution its submission of applications for shooting range funding assistance. Resolution Date: Feb. 24, 2007.

## **PART II. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

**Abbreviated Checklist - The degree and intensity determines extent of Environmental Review. An abbreviated checklist may be used for those projects that are not complex, controversial, or are not in environmental sensitive areas)**

**Table 1. Potential impact on physical environment.**

Will the proposed action result in potential impacts to:	Unknown	Potentially Significant	Minor	None	Can Be Mitigated	Comments Below
1. Unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources				X		
2. Terrestrial or aquatic life and/or habitats				X		
3. Introduction of new species into an area				X		
4. Vegetation cover, quantity & quality				X		
5. Water quality, quantity & distribution (surface or groundwater)				X		
6. Existing water right or reservation				X		
7. Geology & soil quality, stability & moisture				X		
8. Air quality or objectionable odors				X		
9. Historical & archaeological sites				X		
10. Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air & energy				X		
11. Aesthetics				X		

**Comments** (A description of potentially significant, or unknown, impacts and potential alternatives for mitigation must be provided.)

**Table 2. Potential impacts on human environment.**

Will the proposed action result in potential impacts to:	Unknown	Potentially Significant	Minor	None	Can Be Mitigated	Comments Below
1. Social structures and cultural diversity				X		
2. Changes in existing public benefits provided by wildlife populations and/or habitat				X		
3. Local and state tax base and tax revenue				X		
4. Agricultural production				X		
5. Human health				X		
6. Quantity & distribution of community & personal income				X		
7. Access to & quality of recreational activities				X		
8. Locally adopted environmental plans & goals (ordinances)				X		
9. Distribution & density of population and housing				X		
10. Demands for government services				X		
11. Industrial and/or commercial activity				X		

**Comments** (A description of potentially significant, or unknown, impacts and potential alternatives for mitigation must be provided.)

### **Part III. Environmental Consequences**

**Does the proposed action involve potential risks or adverse effects which are uncertain but extremely harmful if they were to occur?** No

**Does the proposed action have impacts that are individually minor, but cumulatively significant or potentially significant?** No

**Identification of the Preferred Alternatives:** NA – all actions are minor repairs or maintenance of existing equipment or facilities and are exempt from an Environmental Assessment under MEPA (Montana Environmental Policy Act), IAW the MEPA Model Rules implemented under Title 75, chapter 1, MCA, the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA)...

*III...(5) The agency is not required to prepare an EA or an EIS for the following categories of action:...(c) minor repairs, operations, or maintenance of existing equipment or facilities;*

**Description and analysis of reasonable alternatives (including the no action alternative) to the proposed action whenever alternatives are reasonably available and prudent to consider and a discussion of how the alternatives would be implemented :** None

**Describe any Alternatives considered and eliminated from Detailed Study:** None

**List and explain proposed mitigative measures (stipulations):** None

**Individuals or groups contributing to, or commenting on, this EA:**  
Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks

### **PART III. NARRATIVE EVALUATION AND COMMENT**

**EA prepared by:** GENE R. HICKMAN  
Ecological Assessments  
Helena, MT 59602

**Date Completed:** September 9, 2007

### **PART IV. EA CONCLUSION SECTION**

**Recommendation and justification concerning preparation of EIS:**

None Required

**Describe public involvement, if any:** None deemed necessary